

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 11 and 24 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1 through 10, 12 through 23, 25, and 26 to read, as follows.

1. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method for developing a latent image formed on an image bearing member with a developer including a toner and a carrier contained in a developer containing portion, the developing method comprising the steps of:

developing a **first** latent image for controlling a replenishing amount of the developer to the ~~[[said]]~~ developer containing portion using ~~[[by]]~~ a first developing electrical field; and

developing the ~~a second~~ latent image for a normal image using controlling gradation of an image by a second developing electrical field, ~~field; and~~

wherein a changed amount of a density of the developed image with respect to a changed amount of a density of the toner in the developer in the developer containing portion is greater when using the first developing electrical field than when using the second developing electrical field. ~~wherein the first developing electrical field is different from the second developing electrical field.~~

2. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 1, wherein a ~~changed amount of a density of a developed image with respect to a changed amount of density of the developer in said developer containing portion is greater in formation of the~~

first developing electrical field is an alternating ~~than in formation of the second developing~~
electrical field.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 1 or 2,
wherein the second ~~first~~ developing electrical field alternately includes a period during
which ~~is provided only when~~ an alternating electrical field is formed and a period during
which the alternating field is not formed. ~~field is formed.~~

4. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 1, further
comprising the step of:
detecting information corresponding to a density of a developed image obtained by
developing using first developing electrical field,

wherein the replenished amount of the developer to the developer containing
portion is controlled on the basis of the detected information. ~~2 or 3, wherein the second~~
~~developing electrical field alternately includes a period during which an alternating~~
~~electrical field is formed and a period during which~~ the formation of the alternating
~~electrical field is stopped.~~

5. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 1, wherein the
first developing electrical field is an alternating electrical field.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 1, further
comprising the step of: ~~[[of]]~~

detecting information corresponding to a a ~~[[the]]~~ density of a ~~[[the]]~~ developed image obtained by developing the first latent image, ~~[[and]]~~

wherein a replenished amount of the developer to the ~~[[said]]~~ developer containing portion is controlled on the basis of the detected information.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of: ~~[[of]]~~

detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of the developed image obtained by developing the second latent image; ~~image~~, and

controlling a gradation of the developed image on the basis of the detected information.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method for developing a latent image formed on an image bearing member with a developer including a toner and a carrier contained in a developer containing portion, the developing method comprising the steps of:

developing a first latent image for controlling a replenishing amount of the developer to the ~~[[said]]~~ developer containing portion using ~~[[by]]~~ a first developing electrical field; and

developing a second latent image for controlling a gradation of a developed ~~[[an]]~~ image using ~~[[by]]~~ a second developing electrical field; ~~field~~; and

wherein a changed amount of a density of the ~~[[a]]~~ developed image with respect to a changed amount of a density of the toner in the developer in the ~~[[said]]~~ developer

containing portion is greater when using in formation of the first developing electrical field than when using in formation of the second developing electrical field.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 8, wherein the first developing electrical field is ~~provided only when~~ an alternating electrical field. ~~field is formed.~~

10. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the second developing electrical field alternately includes a period during which an alternating electrical field is formed and a period during which the formation of the alternating electrical field is not formed. ~~stopped.~~

11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of: ~~[[of]]~~

detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of a ~~[[the]]~~ developed image obtained by developing the first latent image, ~~[[and]]~~

wherein the ~~[[a]]~~ replenished amount of the developer to the ~~[[said]]~~ developer containing portion is controlled on the basis of the detected information.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A developing method according to claim 8, further comprising the steps of: ~~[[of]]~~

detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of the developed image obtained by developing the second latent ~~image; image;~~ and controlling a gradation of the developed image on the basis of the detected information.

14. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus comprising:

a developer containing portion for containing a developer including a toner and a carrier; and

a developer carrying member for carrying the developer, ~~developer;~~ and

wherein when a latent image is formed on an image bearing member, a developing electrical field is formed between said image bearing member and said developer carrying member, ~~member;~~ and further

wherein the developing apparatus is operable in a plurality of modes including:

a first mode in which a latent image for controlling a replenishing amount of the developer to the developer containing portion is developed using a first developing electrical field; and

a second mode in which a latent image for a normal image is developed using a second developing electrical field,

wherein a changed amount of a density of a developed image with respect to a changed amount of a density of the toner in the developer in the developer containing portion is greater when using the first developing electrical field than when using the second developing electrical field. ~~wherein a first developing electrical field by which a first latent image for controlling a replenishing amount of the developer to said developer~~

~~containing portion is developer is different from a second developing electrical field by which a first latent image for controlling a gradation of an image.~~

15. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein ~~a changed amount of density of a developed image with respect to a changed amount of density of the developer in said developer containing portion is greater in formation of the second developing electrical field than in the formation of the first developing electrical~~ field is an alternating electrical field.

16. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 14 or 15, wherein the second ~~first~~ developing electrical field alternately includes a period during which an alternating electrical field is formed and a period during which the alternating electrical field is not formed. ~~is provided only when an alternating electrical field is formed.~~

17. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

a detector for detecting information corresponding to a density of a developed image obtained by developing with the first developing electrical field,

wherein the replenished amount of the developer to said developer containing portion is controlled on the basis of the detected information. ~~15 or 16, wherein the second developing electrical field alternately includes a period during which an alternating~~

electrical field is formed and a period during which the formation of the alternating electrical field is stopped.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the first developing electrical field is an alternating electrical field.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

a detector for ~~comprising the step of~~ detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of a ~~[[the]]~~ developed image obtained by developing the first latent image, ~~[[and]]~~

wherein a replenished amount of the developer to said developer containing portion is controlled on the basis of the detected information.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

a detector for ~~comprising the steps of~~ detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of a ~~[[the]]~~ developed image obtained by developing the second latent image; image, and

a controller for controlling a gradation of the developed image on the basis of the detected information.

21. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus comprising:

a developer containing portion for containing a developer including a toner and a carrier; and

a developer carrying member for carrying the developer, ~~developer~~, and

wherein when a latent image is formed on an image bearing member, a developing electrical field is formed between said image bearing member and said developer carrying member,

wherein the developing apparatus is operable in a plurality of modes including:
~~member;~~

~~and further comprising~~

a first mode in which a first latent image for controlling a replenishing amount of the developer to the ~~the~~ [[said]] developer containing portion is developed using ~~using~~ [[by]] a first developing electrical field; and

a second mode in which a second latent image for controlling gradation of a developed ~~developed~~ [[an]] image is developed using ~~using~~ [[by]] a second developing electrical field, ~~field~~;
~~and further~~

wherein a changed amount of a density of a developed image with respect to a changed amount of a density of the toner in the developer in the ~~the~~ [[said]] developer containing portion is greater when using ~~in formation of~~ the first developing electrical field than when using ~~in formation of~~ the second developing electrical field.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the first developing electrical field is ~~provided only when~~ an alternating electrical ~~field. field is formed.~~

23. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 21 or 22, wherein the second developing electrical field alternately includes a period during which an alternating electrical field is formed and a period during which ~~formation of~~ the alternating electrical field is not formed. ~~stopped.~~

24. **(Canceled)**

25. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

a detector for ~~comprising the step of~~ detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of a ~~[[the]]~~ developed image obtained by developing the first latent image, ~~[[and]]~~

wherein the ~~[[a]]~~ replenished amount of the developer to said developer containing portion is controlled on the basis of the detected information.

26. **(Currently Amended)** A developing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising a detector for ~~the steps of~~ detecting information corresponding to a ~~[[the]]~~ density of a ~~[[the]]~~ developed image obtained by developing the second latent image; and ~~image, and~~

a controller for controlling a gradation of the developed image on the basis of the detected information.